

## DESIGNER SELECTION BOARD

### MINUTES OF THE 1009<sup>TH</sup> MEETING, WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2021 AT 8:30 A.M, VIA ZOOM.

#### 1. ROLL CALL:

The Designer Selection Board Meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m.

##### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Elise F. Woodward, AIA, Vice-Chair	Registered Architect
Martha Blakey Smith, AIA	Registered Architect
Jessica Tsymbal, AIA, LEED AP	Registered Architect
Ilyas Bhatti, P.E.	Registered Engineer
Daniel M. Carson, P.E.	Registered Engineer
Rebecca Sherer, P.E.	Registered Engineer
Kenneth Wexler	General Contractor
Janice M. Bergeron	Public Member

##### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Alan Ricks, AIA, Chair	Registered Architect
David A. Chappell, P.E.	Registered Engineer

Present for the DSB staff, Bill Perkins, Executive Director, Claire G. Hester, Program Coordinator III and Roberto Melendez, Program Coordinator I.

#### 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

A motion to approve the minutes of the 1008<sup>th</sup> February 3, 2021 meeting was made by Ilyas Bhatti, seconded by Janice Bergeron. Motion was approved.

#### 3. VISITORS:

Ryan Moore	DCAMM
Emmanuel Andrade	DCAMM
Elayne Campos	DCAMM
Jennifer Gaffney	DOC
Liz Minnis	DCAMM
Pamela Couchon	Soldier's Home in Holyoke
Liz Minnis	DCAMM
John Prudente	DCAMM
Kyle Pelletier	DCAMM
Rachel Corey	Rachel Corey
Mallory Hanora	Justice As Healing
Stephanie Beals	TSKP
Kelsey Goetz	DCAMM
Pamela Starks	Pamela Starks
Aminata Kaba	Aminata Kaba
Debbie Yelle	Kleinfelder
Karen Reichenbacher	STV
Robin Greenberg	Perkins Eastman
Jackey Goldb	Jackey Goldb
Timothy Benoit	Timothy Benoit
Jude Glaubman	Jude Glaubman
Cathy DeFrances-Vittorio	Cathy DeFrances-Vittorio
Leslie Credle	Leslie Credle
Nora Vincent (she/her)	Nora Vincent (she/her)
Elizabeth Landry	Elizabeth Landry
Price Jepsen	STV
Diane Bruining	CGL Companies
Connie Chow	UMB
Joel Goodmonson	ARC Engineers
Anna Nathanson	Anna Nathanson
Elijah Patterson	Black and Pink MA Organization
Jim Bell	MPN – Arch
Cecilia Dawn	Cecilia Dawn
Vee Nevills	Vee Nevills
Diane Sedar	MPN – Arch
William Pevear	William Pevear Architects
David Weimer	David Weimer
Cloe Pippin	Cloe Pippin
Terie Starks	Terie Starks
Harold Levkowicz	HDR
Michael Tyre	Amenta Emma

Hannah Zack	Hannah Zack
Kay McLaurin	CGL Companies
Jeffrey DeVeau	STV
Andrea James	The National Council
Sashi James (she/her)	The National Council
John Garcia	Linea 5
Joe DiTizio	EBI Consulting
Chad Reilly	HDR
Mark Galvin	CDM Smith
Jennifer Shelby	ARC Engineers
Yaira Matos	Yaira Matos
Dawne Young	Dawne Young
Hannah Henkin	UMICH
Rachel Roth	Rachel Roth
Cherry Russell	Cherry Russell
Jordan Mazurek	The National Council
Ash Trull	Ash Trull
Robyn Minella	CES Engineers
Olivia Feldman	Justice 4 Housing
Deborah Goldfarb	BMC Org
Erica Taft (she/her)	BC EDU
Ashley Solomon	Dietz Arch
Jane Kennedy	Chelsea Schools
Robin Greenleaf	ARC Engineers
Michael Lazo	DCAMM
Eurs Choi	Harvard
Susan Wisler	ARC Engineers
Katy Naples-Mitchell	Harvard
Robert Fisch	CGL Companies
Valerie Jimenez	STV
Robert Simmons	Studio 4 Living
Michael Cox	Michael Cox
Norma Wassel	Norma Wassel
Ryan Critchfield	CGL Companies
Alexandra Dorn	William Pevear Architects
Hannah Long	Tufts
Caitlin Donnelly	Caitlin Donnelly
Betsy Lawson	CDW Consultants
Renee Laplante	SMRT
Sarah Nawab	PLSMA Org
Sherilyn Tkacz	Sherilyn Tkacz
Crystale Wozniak	Kleinfelder
Gina Bourque	Gina Bourque
Sarah Betancourt	Mass Inc. Org
Sara Ruggiero	STV
Rich Polwrek	DCAMM
Lauren Hickey	FAA Inc.
Olivia Dubois	Olivia Dubois
Kevin Sullivan	Kevin Sullivan
Elizabeth Rucker	Elizabeth Rucker
Mike Sears	RDK/NV5
Marisa Sullivan	Studio G Architects
Ashley Tabet	UMB
Margaret O'Meara	Kleinfelder
Kimberly Jane	Kimberly Jane
Jeffrey Quick	DOC
Frank Greene	Greene Justice
Elizabeth Whalley	Framingham Edu
Stacey Borden	New Beginnings Reentry Services
Allison Rutz	FAA Inc.
Annarose Shaver	Annarose Shaver
Hayley Veillette	Hayley Veillette
Betsey Chace	Alum MIT Edu
Autstin Frizzell	Austin Frizzell
Valerie Puchades	Gund Partnership
Miles McDonald	BVH
Sean Foley	DOC

4. **NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. DSB List #21-01, DOC2106, Study and Design of a Correctional Center for Women, Statewide (DCAMM), Fee for Study: \$550,000 – Schematic Design/Certifiable Study and Final Design is To Be Negotiated, 5 Applicants**

Jennifer Gaffney from the Department of Correction thanked the Board for considering this project. Trauma informed care acknowledges how women have been traumatized. These women need to be treated and healed for rehabilitation to lead a productive life outside of prison. Emmanuel Andrade from DCAMM was present to explain the project and answer questions from the Board.

All the applicants have met the requirements of the project criteria. The Board reviewed and commented on the following five (5) applications in reverse alphabetical order:

STV, Inc. – This firm has experience in this type of project and exceeds the qualifications requested in the advertisement. They presented the correctional experience and noted the projects that have been implemented with phasing. They showed experience in women's facilities as well as psychiatric facilities. STV had a diverse team of sub-consultants and noted that their own population is 28% women and 29% minority but did not focus on the constituency in STV leadership. It would have been helpful to have more specific narrative on how STV would team with their sub-consultants. They provided a matrix that demonstrated their experience with similar correctional facilities and tied that experience to the evaluation factors that DCAMM requested in the advertisement. It was noted that STV and other firms have added a justice consultant to their team.

Ken asked a question if the chats should be addressed. Elise stated that some of the chats are from advocacy groups seeking to affect the outcome of this project. The DSB is not an advocacy board. This Board identifies architectural and engineering firms that have the experience and appropriate skills to be able to assist DCAMM and DOC when and if they decide to design this facility. The Board's charge is to focus on the applications, to be prepared to address questions and comments and open to receive public comment. There were several individuals that requested in advance to make a public comment and those will be heard as noted in the agenda.

SMRT Architects and Engineers – They have extensive experience related to women's correctional facilities in NH. The architect is taking on a lot of disciplines in-house with secondary partners for the same disciplines and it would have been nice to see more information on how these relationships were going to take place within the team. The firm has multiple offices and much of their work is in another state. The planning consultant is based in NY but does have experience throughout the country. The Washburn House was a good example for a different approach to this project. They did not show work for renovation projects in an occupied building, everything in Section #4 was for new construction; they did not show work inside a secure setting. They had a strong diversity statement. In Section #5 they did mention project phasing but in a general way. Much of their experience was in the Maine Correctional system.

Kleinfelder Northeast, Inc. – This team has extensive experience in women's correctional facilities. They have highlighted a correctional planning consultant as well. Kleinfelder is a large firm and their Section #10 was well done and noted specific examples to the evaluation response. The PIC and PM have both correctional and courts experience.

HDR Architecture, P.C. – They provided excellent evaluations from relevant agencies. There is no confusion on which consultant is doing the work. They provided concise and specific project information. There are more women involved in this project which will give it a different perspective. This is a good proposal.

Finegold Alexander Architects, Inc. – Finegold is teaming with HOK for the corrections planning and corrections security consultants and show how they will work together in Section #5. The PIC and PM showed more justice center experience than correctional facilities. Their supplemental response in Section #5 was specific to their experience in correctional facilities, facilities that support women and in sustainability.

Rebecca wanted to know what DCAMM/DOC are looking for, what are their goals and what firms are a good fit for this project. She stated that all the applications brought good strengths to the process.

Emmanuel stated that DCAMM/DOC is listening to the concerns of the public and advocacy groups. They have come back a year later with a stronger project approach. The strategic plan is not complete yet and there will be stakeholder engagement and a chance for public discussion. The first firm was responsive and the other four firms were more responsive. DCAMM/DOC is looking for a diverse firm with experience in correctional facilities and buildings that focus on incarcerated women and a team that can deliver trauma informed care design in a large project.

The Board voted to select the following three (3) unranked finalists to be interviewed on March 3, 2021:

Finegold Alexander Architects, Inc.  
HDR Architecture, P.C.  
Kleinfelder Northeast, Inc.

Motion was made by Rebecca Sherer to interview the above firms for the Women's Correctional Center project on March 3, 2021, seconded by Ilyas Bhatti. Motion was approved.

**B. DSB List #21-02, HLY2100, Study and Design for General Building Renovation, Repairs, and Upgrades, Soldiers' Home Holyoke (House Doctor – 4 contracts) Fee: \$250,000, 7 Applicants**

All the applicants met the requirements for this project. The Board reviewed the applications and commented below:

Edward Rowse Architects, Inc. – They showed experience in community centers and congregate living situations. This application was separated by prime and sub-consultants and it would be helpful to the Board if future application were integrated so that each of the sections included prime and sub-consultants together. It was difficult to read. They are showing diversity on their team and they do show their experience as requested in the advertisement.

William Pevear Architects, Inc. – This firm is a veteran-owned firm. They have a strong diversity statement. They provided good references and evaluations along with relevant experience as requested in the advertisement. This was a well-coordinated and presented application with specific information for all of the criteria categories.

Moser Pilon Nelson Architects, LLC – This firm showed new and rebuilt veteran projects, but their sub-consultants have extensive DCAMM experience. They did not address all the evaluation criteria in Section #5. In general, they did put together a good proposal even though they did not provide a lot of experience for this house doctor project.

Linea 5, Inc. – They provided strong references. The prime team has strong health care experience but the veterans and DCAMM experience is captured in their sub-consultant's experience. This would be a good chance for them to expand their experience. It was a good proposal and the team is capable of performing the work.

Dietz & Company Architects, Inc. – They provided a diverse team. Their Section #4 reflected experience in the type of work that is required. Section #5 was good and discussed the in-house specification writer. They have good comments from the agency. Overall this was a good proposal.

DHK Architects – This firm specifically addressed the projects that they have competed at the Chelsea Soldier's Home in Section #5. They have the experience for this house doctor project. They addressed the items in the evaluation criteria.

Caolo & Bieniek Associates, Inc. – This firm is in Chicopee. They provided good references. The team has veterans experience. They have relevant experience with the criteria requested in the advertisement.

Pamela Couchon from Soldiers' Home Holyoke was present to explain the project and answer questions from the Board. The Board voted to select the following four (4) unranked firms for the Soldiers' Home Holyoke House Doctor project:

Caolo & Bieniek Associates, Inc.  
Dietz & Company Architects, Inc.  
Linea 5, Inc.  
William Pevear Architects, Inc.

Motion was made by Rebecca Sherer to select the above unranked firms for the Soldier's Home Holyoke House Doctor project, seconded by Kenneth Wexler. Motion was approved.

**C. DSB List #21-03, DOC2020-MEP, Study and Design for Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing and Fire Protection Renovations, Repairs and Upgrades, Department of Correction (DOC), Statewide (House Doctor – 3 contracts) Fee: \$500,000, 9 Applicants**

All the applicants met the requirements for this project. The Board reviewed the applications and commented below:

STV, Inc. – This firm submitted a good proposal and could handle multiple projects. The evaluation criteria match what they highlighted in the prime experience; this was very helpful.

SMRT Architects and Engineers – They have a very diverse team. The PM brings correctional experience to this project. Section #5 was excellent and provided a good statement regarding security during renovations.

RDK Engineers/NV5 – This firm has an outstanding balance on a house doctor contract that will conclude this year with DOC. They have good evaluations and experience with DOC and DCAMM. This is an engineering firm. They provided a solid proposal.

Pristine Engineers, Inc. – They provided good references and resumes. They had a good diversity statement and showed their correctional experience.

Garcia, Galuska, DeSousa, Inc. – Their resumes could be more detailed and tailored to their qualifications and experience as requested in the advertisement. This proposal was confusing to read and should be integrated for future applications. The diversity statement was missing from Section #5. This is an accomplished firm but not with prime experience.

Fuss and O'Neill, Inc. – Their primary office is in Manchester, CT and personnel hold Massachusetts licenses. They have a good diverse team. The secondary MEP sub-consultants are MBE/WBE firms; this should be addressed in Section #5.

Consulting Engineering Services, LLC – This was a good proposal. They have experience working with DCAMM and correctional facilities. Section #5 was solid and addressed the evaluation criteria requested in the advertisement.

BLW Engineers, Inc. – Section #5 was light and did not address all the evaluation criteria.

Architectural Engineers, Inc. – They submitted a strong diverse team. They have extensive correctional experience working with house doctor projects. This was an excellent proposal.

Sean Foley from Department of Correction was present to explain the project and answer questions from the Board. The Board voted to select the following three (3) finalists for the DOC MEP House Doctor project:

Architectural Engineers, Inc  
Consulting Engineering  
RDK/NV5

Motion was made by Martha Blakey Smith to select the above unranked firms for the DOC MEP House Doctor project, seconded by Ilyas Bhatti. Motion was approved.

**D. Public Comments** – (Attached is the Zoom Chat)

The following speakers requested to speak to the Board in advance and were given 2 minutes each to address their comments in opposition to building a new Correctional Facility for Women:

1. Stacey Borden – New Beginnings of New Entry Services, Inc.
2. Leslie Credle – Director of Information Technology for the National Council for Incarcerated and formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls in Roxbury
3. Pam Sparks – formerly incarcerated woman
4. Norma Wassel – National Association of Social Works, Massachusetts Chapter
5. Elijah Patterson – Communication and Outreach Coordinator for Black and Pink Massachusetts
6. Dr. Elizabeth Whalley – Professor of Sociology and Criminology at Framingham State University
7. Elizabeth Rucker – resident of Roxbury and volunteer member of Showing up for Racial Justice Boston Chapter and member of Deeper Than Water Coalition
8. Betsey Chace – resident of Cambridge

In addition to opposing this project, speakers opposed building new prisons for women without a strategic plan in place, disputed the efficacy of “trauma-informed” design, requested firms to withdraw their applications, urged restorative justice and alternatives to incarceration for healing, denounced the lack of empathy of DOC for families and LGBTQ populations, the unsafe environment for female inmates supervised by male guards, and the poor existing facilities including lack of clean water, Covid protocols, excessive mold, cages for inmates and the policy allowing solitary confinement to exceed the international limit of the “Mandela” rules.

Elise thanked each person that spoke and to all that the Board had not heard from today. The Board appreciated all the articulated observations and knowledge that was shared during the meeting. The Board looks forward to reading the chat in depth and future conversations regarding this complicated matter.

**5. MOTION TO ADJOURN: The Board adjourned at 11:43 a.m.**

On a motion to adjourn the meeting of February 17, 2021 by Ilyas Bhatti, seconded by Janice Bergeron. Motion was approved.

**6. NEXT MEETING:**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. via ZOOM**

Submitted by: Claire H. Hester

Approved by: A. Ricker